

Message Text

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SUBJ: PINOCHET DISCUSSES IMPROVEMENT OF RELATIONS WITH BOLIVIA

1. EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH PRESIDENT OF CHILEAN MILITARY JUNTA, GENERAL AUGUSTO PINOCHET, WAS CARRIED SEPTEMBER 20 IN PRESTIGIOUS LA PAZ MORNING NEWSPAPER EL DIARIO. MAIN THEME OF INTERVIEW WAS PINOCHET'S

ASSERTION THAT MEETING WITH PRESIDENT BANZER IS ESSENTIAL TO BRING ABOUT RESTORATION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN CHILE AND BOLIVIA. PINOCHET EXPRESSED HIS FAITH THAT AN "UNDERSTANDING" BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES IS POSSIBLE, AND NOTED THAT BOTH CHILEAN AND BOLIVIAN PEOPLES HAVE SUFFERED FROM RUPTURE IN DIPLOMATIC TIES WHICH OCCURED IN 1962. ADDRESSING SENSITIVE ISSUE OF TREATMENT OF BOLIVIAN CITIZENS WITHIN CHILE BY NEW GOVERNMENT, PINOCHET ASSURED EL DIARIO CORRESPONDENT THAT ONLY THOSE BOLIVIAN EXILES WHO HAD BECOME INVOLVED IN CHILEAN INTERNAL POLITICS WOULD BE TRIED UNDER CODE OF MILITARY JUSTICE.

2. PINOCHET CONCLUDED INTERVIEW WITH BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF OVERTHROW OF ALLENDE REGIME, AND ASSURANCES CURRENT MILITARY GOVERNMENT WILL MAINTAIN FREEDOM OF PRESS WITHIN CHILE.
BREWIN

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